FROM THE
PERSONAL LIBRARY OF
JAMES BUELL MUNN
1890 – 1967

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Tudor Facsimile Texts

The Nature of the Four Elements

Date of Composition and Printing, *c.* 1510–20

Reproduced in Facsimile, 1908

Munn
PR 2411
.N2
1510 ax

The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER

The Nature of the Four Elements

Issued for Subscribers by

T. C. & E. C. JACK, 16 HENRIETTA STREET

LONDON, W.C.: AND EDINBURGH

MCMVIII

The Nature of the Four Elements

*The only known copy of the original of this facsimile came to the British Museum from the Garrick Collection. It is now numbered "*643 *b.* 45, *impf." Eight leaves are missing in the middle (Sig.* D), *and the conclusion is also lost. These* lacunæ *are indicated by inserted slips in the present edition.*

The date of composition and printing may range between 1510 *and* 1520, *but nothing is known nor can inferences be drawn with any degree of certainty. The author is unknown.*

Mr. Herbert of the Manuscripts Department, British Museum, after comparing this reproduction with the original, says, "The whole collotype is extremely exact in its correspondence with the book, except for a very slightly greater thickness and blurriness throughout." This tendency to over-heaviness in printing, to a certain extent inseparable from collotype work, I hope to reduce to a minimum by using a slightly harder paper for future issues.

JOHN S. FARMER.

¶ A new interlude and a mery of the nature of the .iiij. elementȝ declarynge many ꝓper poyntȝ of philosophy naturall/and of dyuers straunge landys/and of dyuers straunge effectȝ & cawsis/whiche interlude yf ꝯ hole matter be playd wyl conteyne the space of an hour and a halfe/ but yf ye lyst ye may leue out muche of the sad mater as the messengers pte/and some of naturys parte and some of experyens pte & yet the matter wyl depend conuenyently / and than it wyll not be paste thre quarters of an hour of length.

¶ Here folow the namys of the pleyers.

¶ The messengere/Nature naturate/Humanyte Studyous desire/Sensuall appetyte/The tauerner / Experyence / ygnorawnce/Also yf ye lyst ye may bryngе in a dysgysynge.

¶ Here folow dyuers matters whiche be in this interlude conteynyd.

¶ Of the sytuacyon of the .iiij. elementȝ that is to sey the yerth the water the ayre and fyre/& of theyr qualytese and properteſe/and of the generacyon & corrupcyō of thyngȝ made of ꝯ cōmyxtion of them

MVSEVM BRITANNICVM

¶ Of certeyn conclusions proynge ꝑ the yerth must nedꝭ be roũde & ꝑ it hengyth in ꝑ myddꝭ of the fyrmamẽt/ & ꝑ it is in circũferẽce a boue. xxj. M. myle

¶ Of certeyn conclusions proynge that the see lyeth rounde vppon the yerth.

¶ Of certeyne poyntꝭ of cosmography / as how & where ꝑ see coueryth ꝑ yerth/ & of dyuers straũge regyons & landys and whiche wey they lye / and of the new founde landys and ꝑ maner of ꝑ people.

¶ Of the generacyon and cause of stone & metall and of plantis and herbys.

¶ Of the generacyon and cause of well spryngꝭ & ryuers / and of the cause of hote fumys that come out of the of ꝑ yerth / and of ꝑ cause of the bathys of water in the yerth whiche be ꝑpetually hote.

¶ Of the cause of the ebbe and flode of the see

¶ Of the cause of rayne snowe and hayle

¶ Of the cause of the wyndys and thonder

¶ Of the cause of the lyghtnynge of blasyng sterrys and flamys fleynge in the ayre

THabōdant grace of the power deuyne
whiche doth illumyne ỹ worlde inuyron
Preserue this audyēce and cause them to inclyne
To charyte this is my petycyon
For by your pacyens and supportacyon
A lytyll interlude late made and preparyd
Before your presence here shall be declaryd
¶ whiche of a few conclusyons is contriuyd
And poynt of phylosophy naturall
But though the matter be not so well declaryd
As a great clerke coude do nor so substancyall
yet the auctour hereof requiryth you all
Though he be ygnorant and can lytyll skyll
To regarde his only intent and good wyll
¶ whiche in his mynde hath oft tymes ponderyd
what nombre of bokes in our tonge maternall
Of toyes and trykellys be made and imprynt yd
And few of them of matter substancyall
For though many make bokes yet vnneth ye shall
In our englysshe tonge fynde any warke
Of connynge that is regardyd by clerkes
¶ The grekes the romayns with many other mo
In their moder tonge wrot warkes excellent
Than yf clerkes in this realme wolde take payn to

Consyderyng that our tonge is now suffycyent
To expoun any hard sentence euydent
They myght yf they wolde in our englyshe tonge
Wryte workys of grauyte sondyne amonge
¶ For dyuers prengnaunt wytt' be in this lande
As well of noble men as of meane estate
whiche nothynge but englyshe can vnderstande
Than yf connynge laten bokys were translate
In to englyshe/wel correct and approbate
All subtell scyens in englyshe myght be lernyd
As well as other people in their owne tongs dyd
¶ But now so it is that in our englyshe tonge
Many one there is that can but rede & wryte
For his pleasure wyll oft presume amonge
New bokys to compyle and balatt' to indyte
Some of loue or other matter not worth a myte
Some to opteyn fauour wyll flatter and glose
Some wryte curyous terms nothyng to purpose
¶ Thus euery man after his fantesye
wyll wryte his conseyte be it neuer so rude
Be it vertuous vycyous wysedome or foly
wherfore to my purpose thus I conclude
why shold not than the auctour of this interlude
Utter his owne fantesy and conseyte also
As well as dyuers other now a dayes do
¶ For wysedome and foly is as it is takyn

For ỹ one callyth wyſedome a nother callyth folye
yet amonge moſte folke that man is holdyn
moſte wyſe/whiche to be ryche ſtudyeth only
But he that for a cõmyn welth buſyly
Studyeth and labo⁊yth and lyuyth by goddꝭ law
Except he war ryche men count hym but a daw.
¶ So he that is ryche is euer honouryd
All though he haue got it neuer ſo falſely
The po⁊e beynge neuer ſo wyſe is rep⁊ouyd
This is the oppynyon moſte cõmynly
Tho⁊owe out the wo⁊lde/and yet no reaſon why
Therfo⁊e in my mynde whan that all ſuche dawis
Haue babelyd what they cã no fo⁊ce of .ii. ſtrawis
¶ Fo⁊ euery man in reaſon thus ought to do
To labour fo⁊ his owne neceſſary lyuynge
And than fo⁊ the welth of his neyghbour alſo
But what dyuyliſh mynde haue they which muſig
And labourynge all their lyffe do no nother thyng
But bu⁊ge ryches to their owne poſſeſſyon
Nothyng regardige their neyghbours diſtruccõ
¶ yet all the ryches in the wo⁊lde that is
Ryſyth of the grounde by goddys ſendynge
And by the labour of po⁊e menns handys
And though thou ryche mã haue therof ỹ keppynge
yet is not this ryches of thy gettynge
No⁊ oughtyſt not in reaſon to be p⁊eyſyd ỹ mo⁊e

For by other mēnys labour it is got before
¶ A great wytted man may sone be enrychyd
That laboryth and studyeth for ryches only
But how shall his cōscyens than be discharged
For all clerkys afferme that that man precysely
Whiche studyeth for his owne welth principally
Of god shall deserue but lytyll rewarde
Except he the cōmyn welth somwhat regarde
¶ So they sey that that man occupyed is
For a cōmyn welth whiche is euer laborynge
To relcue poore people with temporall goodys
And that it is a cōmyn good act to bryngе
People from vyce and to vse good lyuynge
Lyke wyse for a cōmyn welth occupyed is he
That bryngyth them to knowlege ꝑ yngnorāt be
¶ But man to knowe god is a dyffyculte
Except by a meane he hym selfe inure
Whiche is to knowe goddys creaturys that be
As furst them that be of the grosyst nature
And than to know them that be more pure
And so by lytyll and lytyll ascendynge
To know goddys creaturys & meruelous werkyngе
¶ And this wyse man at the last shall come to
The knowlege of god and his hye magestie
And so to lerne to do his dewte and also
To deserue of his goodnes partener to be
Wherfore in this work declaryd shall ye see

Furſt of the elementis the ſytuacyon
And of their effectis the cauſe and generacyon
¶ And though ſome mē thynke this matter to hye
And not mete for an audyence vnlernyd
We thynke for man nothynge more neceſſary
Than this to know though it be not vſyd
Nor a matter more lowe can not be arguyd
For though the elementis goddys creaturis be
yet they be moſt groſe and lowyſt in degre
¶ How dare men preſume to be callyd clerke
Diſputynge of hye creaturis celeſtyall
As thyngys inuyſyble and goddſ hye warkys
And know not theſe vyſyble thyngys inferyall
So they wolde know hye thyngſ & know nothige
Of the yerth here wheron they dayly be (at all
Nother the nature forme nor quantyte
¶ Wherfore it ſemyth nothynge conuenyent
A man to ſtudy and his tyme to be ſtowe
Furſt for the knowlege of hye thyngſ excellent
And of lyght matters beneth nothynge to know
As of theſe .iiij. elementis here below
Whoſe effectis dayly appere here at eye
Such thigſ to know furſt / were moſt mete ſtudy
¶ Whiche matter before your preſence ſhortly
In this interlude here ſhall be declaryd
Without great eloquence i ryme rudely
Becauſe the compyler is but ſmall lernyd

This worke with rethoryk is not adournyd
For perhappis in this matter muche eloquence
Sholde make it tedyous or hurt the sentence
But because some folke be lytyll dispoſyd
To sadnes/but more to myrth and sport
This philoſophycall work is myxyd
with mery conseytis to gyue men cõfort
And occasyon to cause them to resort
To here this matter/wherto yf they take hede
Some lernynge to them therof may prede
But they that shall nowe this matter declare
Openly here vnto this audyence
Beholde I prey you see where they are
The pleyers begyn to appere in presence
I se well it is tyme for me to go hens
And so I wyll do/therfore now shortly
To god I cõmyt all this hole company

Hic intrat natura naturata Humanyte & Studyous desire portãs figurã

Natura Naturata

The hye myghty most excellent of all
The foũtayn of goodnes verteu & cõnyng
which is eterne of power most potencyall
The pfeccyon and furst cause of euery thynge
I meane that only hye nauture naturynge

Lo he by his goodnes hath ordeynyd and create
Me here his mynyster callyd nature naturate
¶ wherfore I am the verey naturate nature
The immediate mynyster for the preseruacyon
Of euery thynge in his kynde to endure
And cause of generacyon and corrupcyon
Of that thynge that is brought to distruccyon
Another thynge styll I bynge forth a gayne
Thus wonderly I worke and neuer in vayne
¶ The great world be holde lo deuydyd wonderly
In to two regyons wherof on I call
The etheriall region with the heuyns hye
Conteynynge the planettys sterris & speris all
The lower region callyd the elementall
Conteynynge these .iiij. elementis be loo
The fyre the ayre the water and yerth also
¶ But yet the elementis and other bodyes all
Beneth / take theyr effectys and operacyons
Of the bodyes in the region ethereall
By theyr influens and constellacyons
They cause here corrupcyons and generacyons
For yf the mouyng of a boue sholde onys cease
Beneth sholde be nother increse nor decrese
¶ These elementis of them selfe so syngle be
Unto dyuers formys can not be deuydyd
yet they cōuyr to gyder dayly ye see

wherof dyuers kyndes of thyngs be ingenderyd
whiche thyngs eft sonys whan they be corrupteyd
ye the element I reduce to his furst estate
So that nothynge can be vterly adnychelate
¶ For though the forme and facyon of any thyng
That is a corporall body be distroyed
yet euery matter remaynyth in his beynge
wherof it was furst made and formyd
For corrupcyon of a body cõmyxyd
ys but the resolucyon by tyme and space
Of euery element to his owne place
¶ For who that wyll take any body corporall
And do what he can it to distroy
To breke it or grynde it into pouder small
To washe to drown to bren it or to dry
yet the ayre and fyre therof naturally
To their owne yper places wyll ascende
The water to the water the yerth to ỹ yerth tende
¶ For yf hete or moysture of any thynge certayne
By fyre or be water be consumyd
yet yerth or asshes on yerth wyll remayne
So the elementis can neuer be distroyed
For essencyally ther is nowat this tyde
As muche fyre ayre water yerth as was
Euer before this tyme nether more nor las
¶ Wherfore thou man now I specke to the

Remembre that thou art compound and create
Of these elementis as other creaturis be
yet they haue not all lyke noble estate
For plantis and herbys growe and be insensate
Brute bestis haue memory and their wytt̄ fyue
But thou hast all those and soule intellectyue
¶ So by reason of thyne vnderstandynge
Thou hast domynyon of other bestis all
And naturally thou sholdyst desire cōynge
To knowe straunge effect̄ and cauſys naturall
For he that studyeth for the lyke bestyall
As voluptuous pleasure and bodely rest
I account hym neuer better than a best

¶ Humanyte.

¶ O excellent prynce and great lorde nature
I am thyne owne chylde and formyd instrument
I beseche thy grace take me to thy cure
And teche me suche scyens thou thinkyst expedyēt

¶ Nature.

¶ Than syth thou art so humble and benevolent
That thynge that is mete for thy capasyte
And good for thy knowlege I shall Instructe the
¶ Furst of all thou must consyder and see
These elementis whiche do yche other penetrate
And by contynuall alteracyon they be
Of them selfe dayly corrupтyd and generate

The yerth as a poynt or center is sytuate
In the mydde of the worlde/with ỹ water Joyned
with the ayre & fyre rounde & hole inuyronyd
¶ The yerth of it selfe is ponderous and heuy
Colde and dry of his owne nature ppet
Some parte lyeth dry contynually
And parte therof couerȳd ouer with water
Some with the salt see some with fresshe ryuer
whiche yerth and the water to gyder with all
So Joynyd make a rounde fygure sperycall
¶ So the water whiche is colde & moyst is foūde
In and vppon the yerth fyllynge the holones
In dyuers partis lynge with ỹ yerth rounde
yet the hyllys and mounteyns of ỹ yerth excesse
Take nothynge of hit a way the roundnes
In comparyson bycause they be so small
No more than the prikk̄ do that be on a gall
¶ The ayre whiche is hote and moyst also
And the fyre whiche is euer hote and dry
A bout the yerth and water Joyntly they go
And compasse them euery where orbycularly
As the whyte a boute the yolke of an egg doth lye
But the ayre in the lower parte moste remaynyth
The fyre naturally to the hyer tendyth
¶ The etheryall region whiche conteynyth
The sterrys and planettys and euery spere

About the elementis dayly mouyth
And coueryth them rounde about euery where
Euery sterre and spere in straunge maner
Upon his owne poles mouyth dyuersly
whiche now to declare were to longe to tary
¶ The fyre and the ayre of their naturys be lyght
Therfore they moue by naturall prouydence
The water bycause it is ponderous in weyght
Mouyth not naturally but by vyolence
Of the sterris and planetis by whose influence
The see is compellyd to ebbe and flowe dayly
And freshe waters to spryng contynually
¶ And though ỹ the water be grose and heuy
yet nothynge so grose as the yerth I wys
Therfore by hete it is vaporyd vp lyghtly
And in the ayre makyth cloudys and mystis
But as sone as euer that it grosely is
Gedered to gyder / it descendyth a gayne
And causyth vppon ỹ yerth hayle snow & rayne
¶ The yerth because of his ponderosyte
Auoydyth equally the mouyngis great
Of all extremytes and sperys that be
And tendyth to the place that is most quiet
So in the myddys of all the sperys is set
Formast abiect from all maner mouynge
Where naturally he restyth & mouyth nothynge

¶ Marke well now how I haue the shewyd & tolde
Of euery element the very sytuacyon
And qualyte, wherfore this fygure beholde
For a more manyfest demonstracyon
And by cause thou sholdyst not put to oblyuyon
My doctryne/ this man callyd studyous desire
With the shall haue contynuall habytacyon
The styll to exhort more scyens to adquire
¶ For ꝑ more ꝑ thou desyrest to know any thynge
Therin thou semyst the more a man to be
For that man that desireth no maner cõynge
All that wyle no better than a best is he
Why ben the eyes made but only to see
The leggys to bere the body of a creature
So euery thynge is made to do his nature
¶ So lyke wyse reason wit and vnderstondyng
ys gyuen to the man for that thou sholdyst i dede
Know the thy maker & cause of thyne owne beynge
And what ꝑ worlde is & wherof thou doest ꝓcede
Wherfore it be houyth the of verey nede
The cause of thyng⁹ furst for to lerne
And than to know & laude the hye god eterne

¶ Humanyte.

¶ O glorious lorde and prynce moste plesant
Greatly am I now holdyn vnto the
So to illumyne my myndi that was yngnorant

With ſuch noble doctryne as thou haſt here ſhewed
Wherfore I promyſe vppon my fydelyte (me
My dylygence to do to kepe in memory
And the for to honour ſtyll ppetually

¶ Studyous deſire

¶ And ſyth it hath pleaſyd thy grace to admyt
Me vppon this man to gyue attendaunce
With thy doctryne here ſhewyd I ſhall q̃kyn his (wyt
And dayly put hym in remembraunce
His courage and delyre I ſhall alſo inhaunce
So that his felycyte ſhall be moſt of all
To ſtudy and to ſerche for cauſys naturall

¶ Nature.

¶ Well than for a ſeaſon I wyll departe
Leuynge you to gyder here both twayne
What I haue ſhewid man pryntwell in thyne hert
And marke well this fygure ẏ here ſhall remayne
Wherby thou maiſt perceyue many thynges more
Concernynge ẏ matter I ſpake of before (playn
And whan that I ſhall reſort here a gayne
Of hyr poyntꝭ of cõynge I ſhall ſhew ẏ more

¶ Studyous deſire.

¶ Now humanyte call to your memory
The cõynge poyntꝭ that nature hath declaryd
And though he haue ſhewed dyuers poitꝭ & many
Of the elementis ſo wonderfly formed

yet many other caulys there are wolde be lernyd
As to knowe the generacyon of thyngs all
Here in the yerth / how they be ingendryd
As herbys plantys well sprynge ston and metall

¶Humanyte.

¶Those thynge to knowe for me be full expedyēt
But yet i those poyntes whiche nature late shewyd
My mynde in them as yet is not cōtent (me
For I can nō maner wyse parceyue nor see
Nor proue by reason why the yerth shulde be
In the myddes of ỹ fyrmament hengyng so small
And the yerth with the water to be roūde with all

¶Studyous desire.

¶Me thynkyth my selfe as to some of those poyntes
I coude gyue a sufficyent solucyon
For furst of all thou must nedys graunt this
That the yerth is so depe and botom hath non
Or els there is some grose thyng hit stōdyth vpon
Or els that it hangyth thou must nedes consent
Euyn in the myddes of the fyrmament

¶Humanyte.

¶what than go forth with thyne argument

¶Studyous desire.

¶Thā marke well in ỹ day or in a wynters nyght
The sone and mone and sterris celestyall
In the est furst they do apere to thy syght

Þ after in the weſt they do downe fall
Þ a nayne in the morowe next of all
wi ..xxiij. houres they be come Juſt
To eſt point again where thou ſawiſt them furſt
¶ Than yf the erthe ſhulde be of endles depnes
Or ſhulde ſtande vpon any other groſe thynge
Jt ſhulde be an impedyment dowtles
To the ſone mone and ſterris in theyr mouynge
They ſhulde not ſo in the eſt agayne ſprynge
Therfore in reaſon it ſemyth moſte conuenyent
The yerth to hange in ỳ myddſ of the fyrmamẽt

Humanyte.

¶ Thyne argument in ỳ poynt doth me cõfoũde
That thou haſt made but yet it ꝓuyth not ryght
That the yerth by reaſon ſhulde be rounde
For though ỳ fyrmament with his ſterris bryght
Compas aboute the yerth eche day and nyght
yet the yerthe may be playne paduentnre
Quadrant triangle or ſome other fygure

Studyouſe deſyre.

¶ That it can not be playne Jſhall well ꝓue the
Be cauſe the ſterris that a ryſe in the oryent
Appere more ſoner to them that there be
Than to the other dwellynge in the occident

The eclypse is therof a playne experymente
Of the sone or mone which whane it dothe fy
Is neuer one tyme of the day in placys all
Yet the eclyps generally is alwaye
In the hole worlde as one tyme beynge
But whan we that dwell here see it in ỹ mydday
They in the west partis see it in the mornynge
And they in the est beholde it in the euenyng
And why that sholde so be no cause can be found
But onely by reason that the yerthe is rownde

Thumanyte.

That reason proueth the yerth at the lest
One wayes to be rownde I cannot gayne say
As for to accompt frome the est to the west
But yet not withstondynge all that it may
Lese hys rowndenesse by some other waye

Studyous desyre.

Ma no dowte yt is rownde euery where
which I coulde proue thou shoudest not say nay
yf I had therto any tyme and leser
But I knowe a man callyd experyens
Of dyuers instrumentys is neuer without
Cowde proue all these poyntys & yet by his seyes
Can tell how many myle the erthe is a bowte

in many other straūge cōclusiōs no dowte
Thys instrumentys cowde shew thē so certayn
that euery rude carter shold them playne
¶Humanyte.
Now wolde to god I had ỹ man now here
For the contemplacyon of my mynde
¶Studyous desyre.
Yf ye wyll I shall for hym enquere
And bryng hym heder yf I can hym fynde
¶Humanyte.
Then myght I say ye were to me ryght kynde
¶Studyous desyre.
I shall assay by god that me dere bought
For cunnyng is the thynge ỹ wolde be sought
¶Sensuall apetyte.
well hyet quod hykman when ỹ he smot
Hys wyffe on the buttock̄ with a bere pōtt
Aha now god euyn fole god euyn
It is euen the knaue that I mene
Hast thou done thy babelyng
¶Studyous desyre.
Ye peraduenture what than
¶Sensuall apetyte. (my blyssyng.
Thā hold downe thy hede lyke a pryckyma̅ & take

Benedicite/ I graūt to the/ this yoor/
And gyue the absolucion
For thy lothlaws/ stande vp Jack daw
I be shrew thy faders sone.
¶ Make rome syrs and let vs be mery
with hucka gal and synge tyrll on the bery,
And let the wyde worlde wynde
Synge fryska Joly with hey trolyloly,
For I se well it is but a foly,
For to haue a sad mynd.
¶ For rather than I wolde vse suche foly,
To pray to study or be pope holy,
I had as lyf be ded
By goggys body I tell you trew,
I spake as I thynke now els I be shrew,
Euyn my next felowes hed.
¶ Master humanyte syr he your leue.
I were ryght loth you to greue.
Though I do hym dyspyse
For yf ye knewe hym as well as I,
ye wolde not vse his company,
Nor loue hym in no wyse.
¶ Syr he loketh lyke an honest man,
Therfore I merueyll that ye can,

This wyse hym depraue.

Sen. Though he loke neuer so well
I promyse you he hath a flyze wde mell

Hu. Why so I prey you tell

Sen. For he lauerith lyke a knaue

St. Holde your peace syr ye mys take me
what I trowe that ye wolde make me
Lyke to one of your kyn

Sen. Harke syrs here ye not how boldly
He callyth me knaue agayne by polycy
The deuyll pull of his skyn
I wolde he were hangyd by the thzote
For by the messe I loue hym not
we two can neuer a gre
I am content syr with you to tary
And I am for you so necessary
ye can not lyue without me

Hu. why syr I say what man be ye

Sen. I am callyd sensuall apetyte
All creatures in me delyte
I comforte the wyttys fyue
The tastyng smellyng & herynge
I refresh the syght and felynge
To all creatures a lyue

For whan the body werith hongry
For lacke of fode or ellys thurſty
Than with drynkes pleſaund
I reſtore hym out of payne
And oft refreſhe nature agayne
with delycate vyand
with pleſaunde ſound of armonye
The herynge alwaye I ſatyſfy
I dare this well repoꝛte
The ſmellynge with ſwete odoꝛ
And the ſyght with pleſaunte fygoꝛ
And colours I comfoꝛte
The felynge that is ſo pleſaunte
Of euery member fote or hande
what pleaſure therin can be
By the towchynge of ſoft & harde
Of hote or colde nought in regarde
Excepte it come by me
Hu. Than I cannot ſee the contrary
But ye are foꝛ me full neceſſary
And ryght conuenyent.
Stu. yeſyꝛ beware yet what ye do
For yf you forſake my company ſo
Lorde nature wyll not be contente.

Of hym ye ſhall neuer lerne good thyng
Nother vertu nor no other cõnynge
This dare I well ſay
Sen. Mary auaunt knaue I the defye
Dyde nature for byde hym my cõpany
what ſayſt thou therto ſpeke openly
Hu. As for that I know well nay
Sen. No by god I am ryght ſure
For he knoweth well no creature
without me can lyue one day
Hu. Syr I pray you be contente
It is not vtterly myne intente
your company to exyle
But onely to haue cõmunycacyon
And a paſtyme of recreacyon
with this man for a whyle
Stu. well for your pleaſure I wyll departe
Sen. Now go knaue go I beſhrew thy hart
The deuyll ſende the forwarde
Sen. Now by my trouth I meruell ghetly
That euer ye wolde vſe the company
So myche of ſuche a knaue
For yf ye do no nother thynge
But euer ſtudy and to be merynge.

As he wolde haue you it wyll you bryngē
At the last vnto your graue
Ye shulde euer study pryncypall
For to comfort your lyfe naturall
With metis and drynkes dilycate
And other pastymes & pleasures amonge
Daūsynge laughynge or pleasaunt songe
This is mete for your estate

Hu. Be cause ye sey so I you prmyse
That I haue musyd & studyed such wyse
Me thynketh my wyttes wery
My nature desyreth some refresshynge
And also I haue ben so longe fastynge
That I am somwhat hongry

Sen. Well than wyll ye go with me
To a tauerne where ye shall se
Good pastaunce & at your lyberte
Haue what so euer ye wyll

Hu. I am content so for to do
yf that ye wyll not fro me go
But kepe me company styll

Sen. Cōpany qō a/ye ꝙ I shall poynt deuyse
And also do you good and trew seruyce
And therto I plyght my trouthe

And yf that I euer forsake you
I pray god the deuyl take you
Hu. Mary I thanke you for that othe
Sen. A mischyfe on it my tonge loo
wyll tryp somtyme what so euer I do
But ye wot what I mene well
Hu. Ye no force let this matter passe
But seydest eui now thou knewyst where
A good tauerne to make solas (was
where is that I pray the tell
Sen. Mary at the dore euyn here by
yf we call any thynge on hye
The tauerner wyll answere
Hu. I pray the than call for hym nowe
Sen. Mary I wyll / How tauerner how
why dost thou not appere
Tauer. Who is that calleth so hastely
ner. I shrew thyne hert speke softely
I tell the I am not here
Sen. Than I be shrew ỹ page of thyne age
Come hyther knaue for thyne auauntage
why makyst thou hit so tow
Ta. For myne auãtage mary thã I come
Beware syrs how let me haue rome
Lo here I am what seyst thou

Sen. Mary thus here is a gentylman I say
That nother ete nor dranke this day
Therfor tell me I the praye
yf thou haue any good wyne
Ta. ye shall haue spaynesshe wyne & gascoyn
Rose coloure whyt claret rampyon
Tyre capryck and malueſyne
Sak raſpyre alycaunt rumney
Greke iporaſe new made clary
Suche as ye neuer had
For yf ye drynke a draught or too
yt wyll make you or ye thens go
By goggs body starke madde
Sen. I wot thou art not without good wyne
But here is a gentylmā hath lyſt to dyne
Canſt thou get hym any good mete
Ta. what mete mayſter wolde ye haue
Hu. I care not ſo god me lawe
So that it be holſome to ete
I wolde we had a good ſtewyd capon
Sen. As for capons ye can gette none
The kyngys taker toke vp eche one
I wot well there is none to get

Ca. Though all capons be gone what than
yet I can get you a ſtewed hen
That is redy dyght.
Hu. yf ſhe be fat yt wyll do well
Ca. Fat or lene I cannot tell
But as for this I wot well
She lay at the ſtewes all nyght.
Hu. Thou art a mad geſt be this lyght.
Sen. ye ſyr it is a felow that neuer faylys
But cãſt get my mayſter a dyſhe of qua-
ſmal byrdes ſwalowes or wagtayls
They be lyght of dygeſtyon.
Ca. Lyght of dyſgeſtyon for what reaſon
Sen. For phyſyk puttyth this reaſon therto
Bycauſe thoſe byrdes fle to & fro
And be contynuall mouynge
Ca. Then know I a lyghter mete than ſy
Hu. I pray the tell me what
Ca. yf ye wyll nedys know at ſhort & longe
It is euyn a womans tounge
For that is euer ſterynge
Hu. Syr I pray the let ſuche fantaſes be
And come heder nere & harke to me
And do after my byddynge.

Goo pnruey vs a dyner euyn of the moste
Of all mauer dylshes both sod and rolle
That thou canst get spare for no colle
yf thou make thye courle

Ta. CThau ye get nother gose nor swane
But a dylhe of dreggys a dylhe of brane
A dylhe of drafte and I trowe than
ye can not get thye worse

Hu. Cwhat horson woldyst thou puruey
Bran draffe & stynkynge dreggs I sey
I holde the mad I trowe

Ta. CGogges pallyon sayd ye not thus
That I shulde puruey you thye courle
And these be courle I nowe (dylshes

Hu. CThye courle dylshes qd a
what mad kole thou nys takest me clene
I se well thou wotest not what I mene
And vnderstandyst a nys
I mene this wyse I wolde haue the
To purney mete so great plente
That thou sholdyst of necessyte
Serue them at thye courlys
CThat is to vnderstande at one worde
Thou shuldest bryngе them vnto ꝑ boyde

At thyr seuerall tymes.

Ta. ¶ What than I se well ye wyll make a fetche

Hu. ¶ Ye by the rode euyn with the gretest

Sen. ¶ By my trouth than do ye best
Euyn after my mynde
But ye must haue more company.

Hu. ¶ That is trewe and so wolde I gladde
If I knewe any to fynde

Sen. ¶ why wyll ye folowe my counsell

Hu. ¶ Ye

Sen. ¶ Than we wyll haue lytell nell
A pper wenche she daunsith well
And Jane with the blacke lace
we wyll haue bounsynge besse also
And two or thre proper wenchis mo
Right fey and smotter of face.

Hu. ¶ Now be it so thou art launce pere

Ta. ¶ Thā I pceyue ye wyll make gode chere

Hu. ¶ why what shulde I els do

Ta. ¶ If ye thynke so best than wyll I
Go before and make all thynge redy
Agayne ye come therto.

Hu. ¶ Mary I prey the do so.

Ta. ¶ Than farewell syrs for I am gone

Hu. And we ſhall folow the anon
without any taryyng
Sen. Then it is beſt ſyr ye make haſt
For ye ſhall ſpende here but tyme i waſt
And do no nother thynge
Hu. Yf ye wyll let vs goo by and by
Sen. I pray you be it for I am redy
No man better wyllynge
Exeat Sen. & Hu. Intrat Expiés. & Stu.
Now coſyn experpens as I may ſay
ye are ryght welcom to this contrey
without any faynyng.
Expiés Syr I thanke you therof hertely
And I am as glad of your company
As any man lyuynge.
Stu. Syr I vnderſtonde that ye haue be
In many a ſtraunge countree
And haue had grete fylycyte
Straunge cauſes to ſeke and fynde
Ex. Ryght farr ſyr I haue rydden & gone
And ſeen ſtraunge thynges many one
In affryk/europe and ynde
Bothe eſt & weſt I haue ben farr
North alſo and ſeen the ſowth ſterr

Bothe by see and lande
And ben in sondry nacyons
with peple of dyuers condycyons
Stu. Maruelous to vnderstonde.
Syr yf a man haue suche corage
Or deuocyon in pylgrymage
Iheruzalem vnto
For to accompt the nexte way
How many myle is it I you pray
Ex. From hens theder to goo
Syr as for all suche questyons
Of townes to know the sytuacyon
How ferr they be a sunder
And other poyntes of cosmogrphy
ye shall neuer lerne then more surely
Then by that fygure yonder
For who that fygure dyd fyrst deuyse
It semeth well he was wyse
And perfyte in this seyens
For bothe the se and lande also
Lye trew and iust as they sholde do
I know by experyens.
Stu. who thynke you brought here this fygure
Ex. CI wot not

Stu. Certes lorde nature
Hym selfe not longe a gone
Whiche was here personally
Declarynge hys philosophy
And latte this fygure purposely
For humanytes instruccyon
Ex. Dowtles ryght nobly done
Stu. Syr this realme ye knou is callid ēglāde
Sometyme brettayne I vnderstonde
Therfore I prey you poit with your hāde
In what place it shulde lye
Ex. Syr this ys ynglande lyenge here
And this is skotlāde ẏ Joyneth hym nere
Compassyd a boute euery where
with the occian see rownde
And next from them westwardly
Here by hym selfe alone doth ly
Irelande that holsome grounde
Here than is the narowe seey
To Calyce and Boleyne the next wey
And flaunders in this pte
Here lyeth fraunce next hym ioynynge
And spayñ southwarde frō thēs stādynge
And portyngale in this quart

This contrey is callyd Italye
Beholde where Rome in ỹ mydde doth ly
And Naples here be yonde
And this lytell See that here is
Is callyd the Gulfe of Uenys
And here venys doth stande
¶ As for almayne lyeth this way
Here lyeth denmarke and norway
And northwarde on this syde
There lyeth Islonde where mẽ do fysshe
But be yonde that so colde it is
No man may there abyde
¶ This See is called the great Occyan
So great it is that neuer man
Coude tell it sith the worlde began
Tyll nowe within this .xx. yere
westwarde be founde new landes
That we neuer harde tell of before this
By wrytynge nor other meanys
yet many nowe haue ben there
¶ And that contrey is so large of rome
Muche lenger than all cristendome
without fable or gyle
For dyuers maryners haue it tryed
And sayled streyght by the coste syde
Aboue .v. thousand myle

¶But what cõmodytes be within
No man can tell nor well Imagin
But yet not longe a go
Some men of this coutrey went
By the kynges noble consent
It for to serche to that entent
And coude not be brought therto
¶But they that were they venteres
Haue cause to curse their maryners
Fals of promys and dissemblers
That falsly them be trayed
Whiche wold take no paine to saile farther
Than their owne lyst and pleasure
Wherfore that vyage and dyuers other
Suche kaytyffes haue distroyed
¶O what a thynge had be than
yf that they that be englyshe men
Myght haue ben the furst of all
That there shulde haue take possessyon
And made furst buyldynge & habytacion
A memory perpetuall
And also what an honorable thynge
Bothe to the realme and to the kynge
To haue had his domynyon extendynge
There into so farre a grounde
Whiche the noble kynge of late memory

The moste wyse prynce the. viij. Herry
Cauſyd furſt for to be founde
And what a great merito? youſe dede
It were to haue the people inſtructed
To lyue mo?e vertuouſly
And to lerne to knowe of men the maner
And alſo to knowe god they? maker
whiche as yet lyue all beſtly
For they nother knowe god ne? the deuell
Nor neuer harde tell of heuyn no? hell
Wrytynge no? other ſcripture
But yet in the ſtede of god almyght
The honour the ſone for his great lygge
For that doth them great pleaſure
Buyldynge no? houſe they haue nō at (all
But wodes/cotſ/and cauys ſmall
No mer?eyle though it be ſo
For they vſe no maner of yron
Nother in tole no? other wepon
That ſhulde helpe them therto
Copper they haue whiche is founde
In dyuers places aboue the grounde
yet they dyg not therfo?e
For as I ſayd they haue non yron
wherby they ſhuld in the yerth myne
To ſerche for any wo?e

¶ Great haboundaunce of woddy therbe
Moste parte by3 and pyne aple tre
Great ryches myght come therby
Both pyche and tarre and sope asshys
As they make in the eest landes
By brynnynge therof only
¶ Fyshe they haue so great plente
That in hauyns take and slayne they be
with staues without sayle
Nowe frenchemen & other haue soũde the
That yerely of fyshe there they lade (trade
Aboue an. C. sayle
¶ But in the south parte of that contrey
The people there go nakyd alway
The lande is of so great hete
And in the nor3th parte all the clothes
That they were/is but best skynnes
They haue no nother fete
But howe the people furst began
In that contrey or whens they cam
For clerkes it is a questyon
Other thynges mo I haue in sto3e
That I coude tel therof but now no mo3e
Tyll a nother season

Stu. ¶ Thã at your pleasure shew some other
yt lyketh me so wel your cõmynige (thige

ye can not talke a mys

Ex. ¶Thā wyl I tozne a gayne to my matter
Of Cosmogryfy where I was erē
Beholde take hede to this
¶Loo estwarde beyonde ꝑ great occyan
Here entereth the see callyd mediterran
Of .ij. M. myle of lengthe
The Soudans contrey lyeth here by
The great Turke on ꝑ nozth syde doth ly
A man of mcrueylous strengthe
¶This sayde nozth pte is callyd europa
And this south pte callyd affrica
This eest pte is callyd ynde
But this newe land founde lately
Ben callyd america by cause only
Americus dyd furst them fynde
¶Loo Jhrlm lyeth in this contrey
And this be yonde is the red see
That moyses maketh of mencyon
This quarter is India minoz
And this quarter India matoz
The lande of pzester Johñ
¶But nozthwarde this way as ye se
Many other straunge regions ther be
And people that we not knowe
But estwarde on the see syde

A prynce there is that rulyth wyde
Callyd the Cane of catowe
And this is called the great eest see
whiche goth all a longe this wey
Towardes the newe landis agayne
But whether that see go thyther dyrectly
Or if any wyldernes betwene them do ly
No man knoweth for certeyne
But these newe landes by all cosmografye
Frome the cane of catous lande cā not lye
Lytell paste a thousande myle
But from those new landes mē may sayle
Estwarde & cō to englāde agaie (playne
where we began ere whyle
Lo all this parte of the yerth whiche I
Haue here discryuyd openly
The north parte we do it call
But the south pte on the other syde
ys as large as this full and as wyde
whiche we knowe nothynge at all
No whether ỹ moste pte be lande or see
No whether the people that there be
Be bestyall or connynge
No whether they knowe god or no
No howe they beleue nor what they do
Of this we knowe nothynge

Lo is not this a thynge wooderfull
How that
¶ Et ſubito ſtudyouſe deſire dicat.
Stu. ¶ Peſe ſyr no moze of this matter
Beholde where humanyte cõmeth here
Sen. ¶ How ſey you maiſter humanyte
I pzey you haue ye not be mere
And had good recreacyon
Hu ¶ Yes I thanke the therof euery dell
Foz we haue karyd meruclouſly well
And had good cõmunycacyon
Ta. ¶ What how maiſter where be ye now
Sen. ¶ What I ſhzewe the what haſte haſt thou
That thou ſpekyſt ſo hye
Ta. ¶ So hye qõ a I trow ye be mad by ſayne
Foz dyd ye not ere whyle (gyle
Make poyntment openly
To come agayne all to ſupper
There as ye were to day at dyner
And yet ye poynted not playne
what mete that ye wyll haue dreſt
Noz what delycate ye loue beſt
Me thynke you karre ouer ſayne
Hul ¶ As foz myne owne pte I care not
Dreſſe what mete thou loueſt ſpare not
what ſo euer thou doeſt beſt thynke

Ta. ¶ Now if ye put it to my lyberte
Of all metꝫ in the woꝛlde that be
By this lyght I loue beſt dꝛynke
Sen. ¶ It ſemyth by thy face ſo to do
But my maiſter wyll haue mete alſo
what ſo euer it coſt
Ta. ¶ By god ſyꝛ than ye muſt tell what
Hu. At thy diſcreſſyon I foꝛce nat
whether it be ſoden oꝛ roſt
Ta. ¶ well ſyꝛ than care not let me a lone
ye ſhall ſe that all thynge ſhall be done
And oꝛdeyned well and fyne
Hu. ¶ So I requyre the hertely
And in any wyſe ſpecyally
Let vs haue a cuppe of newe wyne
Tn. Eye ſhall haue wyne as newe as can be
Foꝛ I may tell you in pꝛyuyte
Hit was bꝛued but yeſter nyght
Hu. ¶ But that is nothynge foꝛ my delyte
Ta. ¶ But than I haue foꝛ your apetyte
A cup of wyne of olde claret
There is no better by this lyght
Hu. ¶ well I truſt the well I nowe
Ta. ¶ But on thynge if it pleaſe you nowe
ye ſe well I take muche payne foꝛ you
I truſt ye wyll ſe to me

Hu. Eye I promyse the get the hens
And in this matter do thy dylygence
And I shall well rewarde the
Sen. By cause thou lokyst for a rewarde
One thynge for the I haue ꝑpared
That here I shall the gyffe
Thou shalte haue a knauys skyn
For to put thy body therin
For terme of thy lyfe
Ta. Now gramercy my gentyll brother
And therfore thou shalt haue nother
For voydynge of stryfe
Sen Nowe farewell gentyll Johñ
Ta· Than farewell fole for I am gone
Sen. I byde torne ones a gayne harke what
yet there is a nother thynge (I sey
wolde do well at our maisters wall thynge
Hu. What thynge is that I the prey
Sen. Mary thus canst thou tell vs yet
where is any rose water to get
Ta. ye that I can well purney
As good as euer you put to your nose
For there is a feyre wenche callyd rose
Dystylleth a quarte euery day
Sen. By god I wolde a pynt of that
were powryd euyn vpon thy pate

Before all this presence

Ta. Yet I had leuer she and I
where both to gyther secretly
In some corner in the spence
For by god it is a pretty gyrle
It is a worlde to se her whyrle
Daunsynge in a rounde
O lorde god how she wyll tryp
She wyll bounce it she wyll whyp
ye clene aboue the grounde

Hu. I well let all suche matters passe I sey
And get the hens and goo thy way
Aboute this other matter

Ta. I Than I goo streyght to fare ye well

Sen. But loke yet thou remembre euerydell
That I spake of full ere

Ta. Yes I warrant you do not fere

Exeat Tauerner.

Hu. Goddis lorde seist not who is here now
what studyo⁹ desire what newis with you

Stu Ye shall knowe syr or I go

Sen. What art thou here I se well I
The no knauys the worse company

Stu. Thy lewde condycyons thou doest styll
As thou art wont to do (occupy

Hu. But I sey who is this here in presence

Stu. ¶ Syr this is the man callyd experiens
That I spake of before
Hu. ¶ Experyens why is this he
Syr ye ar ryght welcome vnto me
And shall be euer more
Expe. ¶ Syr I thanke you therof hertely
But I assure you feythfully
I haue small courage here to tary
As longe as this man is here
Sen. ¶ why horson what eylyst at me
Ex. ¶ For thou hast euer so leude a pperte
Science to dispyse and yet thou art he
That nought canst nor nought wylt lere
Sen. ¶ Mary quaūt knaue I make god auowe
I thynke my selfe as cōynge as thou
And that shall I proue shortly
I shall put the a questyon now come nere
Let me se how well thou canst answere
How spellest this worde tom Couper
In trewe artografye
Ex. ¶ Tom couper qō a a wyse questyō herdly
Sen. ¶ Ye I tel ȳ agayne yet/tom coup how spel
Lo he hath forgotten ye may se (lyll it
The furste worde of his a b c.
Harke fole harke I wyll teche the
P.a.pa.t.c.r.ter.do to gyther tom couper

ys not this a foze matter
Loo here ye may se hym puyd a fole
He had moze nede to go to scole
Than to come hyther to clatter

Stu. Certeyne this is a solucyon
Mete foz suche a boyes questyon

Hu. Sensuall apetyte I pzey the
Let passe all suche tryfles and vanyte
Foz a wyle it shall not longe be
And departe I the require
Foz I wolde talke a wozde oz two
with this man here oz he hens go
Foz to satysfy my desyze

Sen. Why goggis soule wyll ye so shortly
Breke poyntment with yonder company
where ye shulde come to supper
I trust ye wyll not breke pinys so

Hu. I care not greatly yf I do
yt is but a tauerne matter

Sen. Than wyll I go shew them what ye sey

Hu. Spare not if thou wylt go thy wey
Foz I wyll here tary

Sen. Thã a dew foz a whyle I tel you playne
But I pmyse you whã I come a gayne
I shall make yonder knauys twayne
To repent and be sozy

Ex. Nowe I am full glad that he is gone
Stu So am I for good wyll he do none
To no man lyuynge
But this is the man with whome ye shall
I trust be well content with all
And glad of his cõuynge
For he hath expownyd connyngly
Dyuers poyntes of Cosmogryfy
In fewe wordes and shorte clause
Hu. So I vnderstande he hath gode science
And that he hath by playne experience
Lernyd many a straunge cause
Stu. Ye syr and I say for my pte
He is the cõyngest man in that arte
That euer I coude fynde
For aske what questyon ye wyll do
Howe the yerth is rounde or other mo
He wyll satysfye your mynde
Ex. Why what doute haue ye therin founde
Thynke ye the yerth shulde not be rounde
Or elles howe suppose ye
Hu. One wey it is rounde I must consent
For this man prouyd it euydent
Towarde the eest and occydent
It must nedis rounde be
Ex. And lykewyse from the south to north

Hu. That poynt to proue were cũ thãke worth
Ex. Yes that I can well proue
For this ye knowe as well as I
ye se the north starre in the skye
Marke well ye shall vnethe it spye
That euer it doth remoue
But this I assure you if you go
Northwarde an hundreth myle or two
ye shall thynke it ryseth
And how that it is nere aproched
The poynt ouer the top of your hed
whiche is callyd your zenyth
Yet yf ye go the other wey
Southwarde. x. or. xii. dayes Iorney
ye shall then thynke anon
It discended and come more nye
The sercle ptynge the yerth and skye
As ye loke streyght with your eye
whiche is callyd your oryson
But ye may go southwarde so farre
That at the last that same starre
wyll seme so farre downe ryght
Clere vnder neth your oryson
That syght therof can you haue non
The yerth wyll stop your syght
This puyth of necessyte

That the yerth must nedis rounde be
This conclusyon doth it trye

Hu. ¶ Nowe that is the ꝑfyst conclusyon
That euer I herde for by reason
No man may hit deuye
But sir if that a man sayle farre
Upon the see wyll than that starre
Do there as on the grounde

Ex. ¶ Ye doutles sayle northwarde ryse it wyl
And sayle southwarde it falleth styl
And that prouyth the see rounde

Stu. ¶ So dothe it in myne oppynyon
But knowe you any other conclusyon
To proue it rounde saue that alone

Ex. ¶ Ye that I knowe ryght well
As thus marke well whan ẏ see is clere
That no stormne nor wawe therō doth pere
This maryners can tell
¶ Than if a fyre be made on nyght
Upon the shore that gyueth great lyght
And a shyp in the see farre
They in the toppe the fyre se shall
And they on hache nothynge at all
yet they on haches be nerē
¶ Also on the see where men be saylynge
Farre frome lande they se nothynge

But the water and the ſkye
yet whan they drawe the lande moze nere
Than the hyll toppes begyn to apere
Styll the nere moze hye and hye
As though they were ſtyll growynge ſaſte
Out of the ſee tyll at laſte
whan they come the ſhoze to
They ſe the hyll toppe fote and all
whiche thynge ſo coude not be fall
But the ſee lay rounde alſo

Hu. Me thynketh your argumēt ſōwhat hard

Ex. Than ye ſhall haue it moze playnly
If ye haue great deſyre (declared
Foz here loo by myne inſtrumentis
I can ſhew the playne exprimentꝭ

Hu. Therto I you requyre

Ex. With all my herte it ſhall be done
But foz the furſt concluſyon
That I ſpake of the fyre
Be this the ſeey that is ſo rounde
And this the fyre vpon the grounde
And this the ſhyp that is here
ye knowe well that a mannes ſyght
Can neuer be but in a lyne ryght

Hu. Juſt you ſay that is clere

Ex. Marke well than may not ỹ mānis eye

Signature D, *eight leaves in fours, is missing from the original copy.*

But the water and the skye
yet whan they draw we the lande more nere

(with argyng here they? fayw
That is not wo?th iij. ſtrawes
(I loue not this hore ſon loſophers
No? this great cõyng extromers
That tell how far it is to the ſterres
I hate all maner connyng
I wolde ye knew it I am Ignoza?nce
A lo?de I am of gretter puſans
Than the kynge of ynglande o? fra?nce
ye the grettyſt lo?d lyuyng
(I haue ſeruaũt? at my retynew
That longe to me I aſſure you
Here with in ynglande
That with me ynnoza?nce dwell ſtyll
And terme of lyfe cõtynew wyll
I boue v C. thowſand
Sen. Gogg? nayls I haue payed ſõ of the I
yng. why man what eylyth ẏ ſo to blow (tro
Sen. Fo? I was at a ſh?ewd fray
yng. Haſt thou any of them ſlayn than
Sen. ye I haue ſlayn them euery man
Saue them that ran away
yng. why is any of them ſkapyd & gone
Sen. ye by gogg? body euerychone
All that euer were there

E.j.

yng. Why than they be not all slayne
Sen. No but I haue put some to payne
For one horeson there was ꝑ torned again
And streyght I cut of his ere
yng. Than thou hast made a cut hym pure
Sen. ye but yet I serued a nother wore
I smot of his legge by the hard ars
As sone as I met hym there
yng. By my trouth that was a mad dede
Thou sholdest haue smyt of his hed
Thã he sholde neuer haue troubled ꝑ more
Sen. Tushe than I had ben but mad
For there was a nother man that had
Smyt of his hed before
yng. Thã thou hast quyt ꝑ lyke a tal knyght
Sen. Ye that I haue by this lyght
But I sey can you tell me tyght
where becam my maister
yng. What he that you call humanyte
Sen. Ye
yng. I wot neuer except he be
Hyd here in some corner
Sen. Goggys body and trew ye sey
For yonder lo beholde ye may
Se where the mad fole doth ly

yng. ¶Now on my feyth and treuth it
Hit were euyn great almys
To smyte his hed from his body
Sen. Nay god forbed ye sholde do so
For he is but an innocent lo
In maner of a fole
For as sone as I speke to hym agayne
I shall torne his mynde clene
And make hym folowe my skole
yng' ¶Than byd hym ryse let vs here hym speke
Sen. ¶Now ryse vp maister huddy peke
your tayle totyth out behynde
Fere not man stande vp by and by
I warrant you ryse vp boldly
Here is non but is your frynde
Hu. ¶I cry you mercy maister dere
yng. why what is cause thou hydest the here
Hu' ¶For I was almoste for fere
Euyn clene out of my mynde
Sen' ¶May it is the study that ye haue had
In this folysche losophy hath made you (mad
And no nother thynge I wys
yng. ¶That is as trewe as the gospell
Therfore I haue great meruell
That euer thou wylt folowe the counsell
Of yonder two knaues

Syr ye know ryght well this
That when any man is
In other mens company
He must nedes folow the appyte
Of such thynges as they delyte
Som tyme amonge perdy

yng. But such knaues wold alway haue ȳ
To put all thy mynd & felicite
In this folysh cõnyng to study
which if thou do wyll make ȳ mad
And alway to be pensyf & sad
Thou shalt neuer be mery

Sen. Mery quod a/no I make god auow
But I pray ȳ mayster hark on word now
And aunswere this thyng
whether thought you it better chere
At the tauerne where we were ere
Or elles to clatter with these knaues here
Of theyr folysh cunnynge

Hu. Nay I can not say the contrary
But ȳ I had mych myrrer company
At the tauerue than in this place

Sen. Than yf ye haue any wyt or brayn
Let vs go to the tauerne agayn
And make some mery solace

yng. yf he wyll do so thã doth he wysely

Hu. By my troth I care not gretely
For I am indyfferent to all company
whether it be here or there
Sen. Then I shall tell you what we wyll do
Mayster yngnorans you & he also
Shall tary both styll here
And I wyll go fet hyther a cõpany
That ye shall here thẽ syng as swetly
As they were angellꝭ clere
And yet I shall bryng hydyr a nother
Of lusty bluddꝭ to make dysport (sort
That shall both daunce & spryng
And tome clene aboue ẏ ground
with fryscas & with gambawdꝭ round
That all the hall shall ryng
And ẏ done with in an howre or twayn
I shall at the towne agayne
Prepare for you a banket
Of metys that be most delycate
And most plesaunt drynkꝭ & wynes ther
That is possyble to get (ate
& which shall be in a chamber feyre
Replete with sote & fragrãt eyre
Preparyd poynt deuyse
with damaske water made so well
That all ẏ howse therof shall smell

As it were pardyse
And after that if ye wyll touche
A feyre wenche nakyd in a couche
Of a softe bed of downe
For to satisfye your wantō lust
I shall apoynt you a trull of trust
Not a feyrer in this towne
And whan ye haue taken your delyte
And thus satisfyed the appetyte
Of your wyttis fyue
ye may sey than I am a seruaunt
For you so necessary and plesaunt
I trowe non suche a lyue

Hu. Nowe by the wey that god dyd walke
It cōforthe myne herte to here the talke
Thy mache was neuer seyn

yng. Than go thy wey by and by
And bryngе in this company
And he and I wyll here tary
Tyll thou come agayne

Hu. And I prey the hertely also

Sen. At your requeste so shall I do
Lo I am gone nowe fare well
I shall bryngе them in to this hall
And come my selfe formast of all
And of these reuellis be chefe merchall

And order all thynge well

Cyngnorance.

Nowe set thy hert on a mery pyn
Agayns these lusty bludds come in
And dryue fantesys a wey

Hu. And so I wyll by heupn kynge
If they other daunce or synge
Haue a monge them by this day

Cyngn orance.

Than thou takyst good & wyse weys
And so shalt thou best please
All this hole company
For the folyshe arguynge ỹ thou hast had
with that knaue experiens ỹ hath made
All these folke therof wery
For all they that be nowe in this hall
They be the most pte my seruaunts all
And loue pryncypally
Disporte as daunsynge syngynge
Toys tryfuls laughynge gestynge
For connynge they set not by

Hu. I se well suche company euer more
As sensuell appetyte is gone fore
wyll please well this audyens

yng. Eye that I suppose they wyll
But peasle harke I prey the be styll

I wene they be not far hens

¶ Then the daunsers with out the hall syng this wyse and they with in answer ozellys they may say it foz nede.

¶ The daunsers & Sensuall.

Pease syzs pease now pease syzs all

¶ Humanyte & yngnozans.

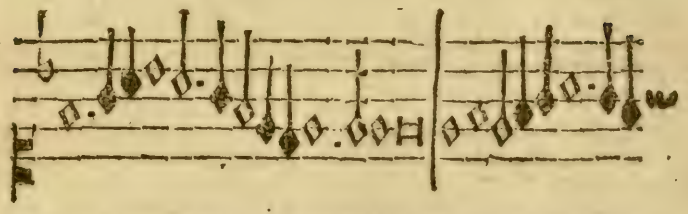
why who is that so hye doth call

¶ The daunsers.

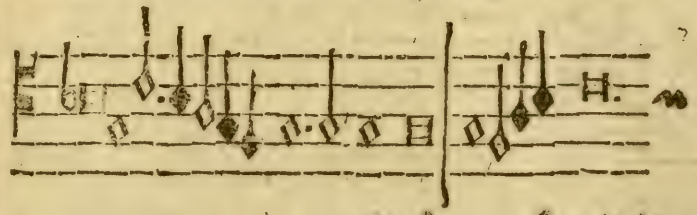
Sylence I say be you among
Foz we be dyspoſyd to syng a song

¶ Humanyte & yngnozans.

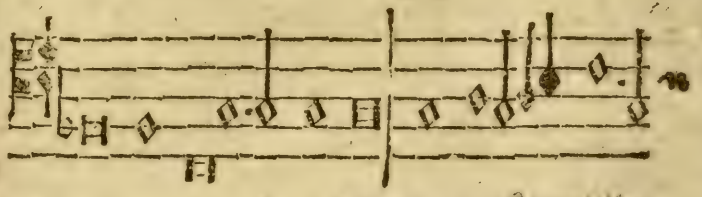
Come in then boldely a mong this presens
Foz here ye shall haue good audyens.

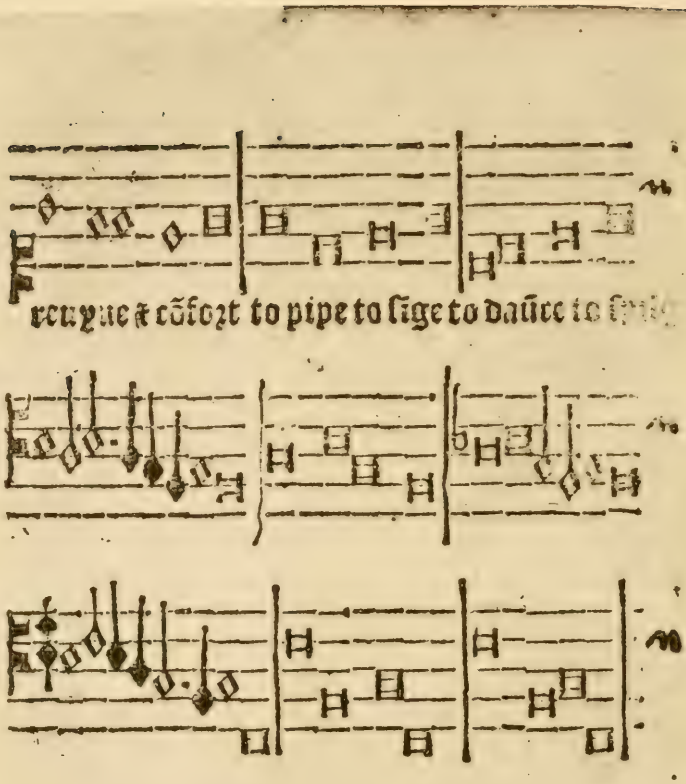


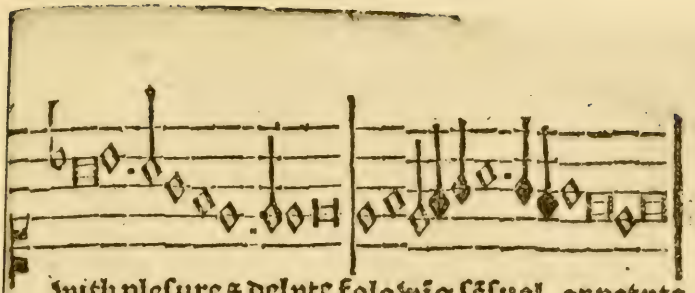
Tyme to pas with goodly ſport our ſpyryt ſ to



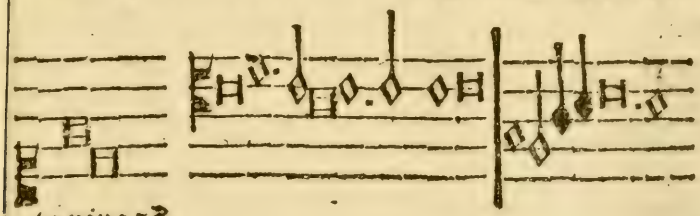
Tyme to pas &c. [illegible]

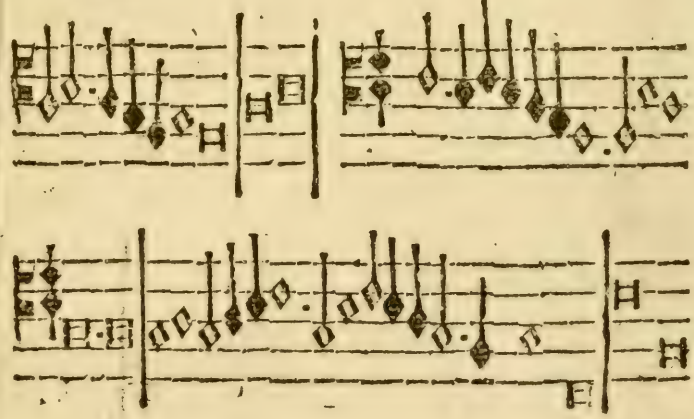


Tyme to pas &c. [illegible]

reuyue & cõfort to pipe to ſige to daũce to



with plesure & delyte folowig sẽsual appetyte



to pipe &c.

yng. I can you thank ꝑ is done well
It is pyte ye had not a mynstrell
For to augment your solas

Sen. As for mynstrell it maketh no force
ye shall se me daunce a cours
without a mynstrell be it better or wors
Folow all I wyll lede a trace

Hu. Now haue a monge you by this lyght

yng. That is well sayd be god almyght
Make rome syrs & gyt them place

¶ Than he syngyth this song & daunyth with all
And euermore maketh countenaunce accordyng
To the mater & all ꝑ other answer lyke wyle
¶ Daunce we/daunce we. prayunce we prayunce we
So merely let vs daunce ey/ so merely &c
And I can daunce it gyngerly & I &c
And I can fote it by & by & I &c
And I can prayke it pperly
And I can countenaunce comely
And I can kroke it curtesly
And I can lepe it lustly
And I can torn it trymly
And I can fryske it freshly
And I can loke it lordly

yng. I can the thanke sensuall apetyte
That is ꝑ best daunce with out a pype

That I ſaw this ſeuen yere

Hu. This daunce wold do mych better yet
yf we had a kyt or taberet
But alas ther is none here

Sen. Then let vs go to ỹ tauerne agayne
There ſhall we be ſure of one or twayn
Of mynſtrellſ ỹ can well play

yng. Then go I pray ye by & by
And puruey ſome mynſtrell redy
And he & I wyll folow ſhortly
As faſt as euer we may

Hu. Ther with I am ryght well content

Sen. Then wyll I go in contynent
And prepare euery thyng
That is metely to be done
And for lacke of mynſtrellſ ỹ mean ſeaſõ
Now wyll we begyn to ſyng

Now we wyll here begyn to ſyng
For daunce can we nomore
For mynſtrellſ here be all lackyng
To ỹ tauerne we wyll therfore

Et exeũt cantando &c.

Hu. Now yf that ſenſuall appetyte cã fynd
Any good mynſtrelſy after hys mynd
Dowt not we ſhall haue good ſpoꝛt

yng. And ſo ſhall we haue foꝛ a ſuerte
But what ſhall we do now tell me
The meane whyle foꝛ our cõfoꝛt

Hu. Then let vs ſome luſty balet ſyng

yng. Nay ſyꝛ by ꝑ heuyn kyng
Foꝛ me thynkyth it ſerupth foꝛ no thyn
All ſuche peuyſh pꝛykyeryd ſong

Hu. Pes man pꝛykſong may not be diſpyſy
Foꝛ ther with god is well pleſyd
Honowꝛyd pꝛayſyd & ſerupd
In the churche oft tymes among

yng. Is god well pleaſyd trowſt thou ther by
Nay nay foꝛ there is no reaſon why
Foꝛ is it not as good to ſay playnly
Gyf me a ſpade
As gyf me a ſpa ve va ve va ve vade
But yf thou wylt haue a ſong ꝑ is good
I haue one of robyn hode
The beſt that euer was made

Hu. Then a feleſhyp let vs here it

yng. But there is a boꝛdon thou muſt bere it
Oꝛ ellys it wyll not be

Hu. ¶ Than begyn and care nocke,
¶ Downe downe downe &c.

yng. ¶ Robyn hode in barnysdale stode
And lent hym tyl a mayll thystyll
Thã cam our lady & swete saynt andrewe
Slepyst thou wakyst thou geffrey coke
¶ A. C. wynter the water was depe
I can not tell you how brode
He toke a gose nek in his hande
And ouer the water he went
¶ He start vp to a thystell top
And cut hym downe a holyn clobe
He stroke ỹ wyn betwene the hornys
That fyre sprange out of the pygg̃ tayle
¶ Alas boy is thy bowe I broke
Or hath any mã done ỹ wrygu!dy wrage
He plukkyd mussyllys out of a wyllowe
And put them in to his sachell
¶ Wylkyn was an archer good
And well coude handell a spade
He toke his bend bowe in his hand
And set hym downe by the fyre
¶ He toke with hym. lx. bowes and ten
A pese of befe a nother of baken
Of all the brydes in mery englond
So merely pypys the mery botell

Nature.

Well Humanyte now I see playnly
That thou hast vsyd muche foly
The whyle I haue ben absent

Hu. Syr I trust I haue done nothynge
That shold be contrary to your plesynge
Nor neuer was myne intent
For I haue folowed thy counsell clere
As ye me bad of studyouse desire
And for necessyte a monge
Sometyme sensuall appetytes counsell
For without hym ye knowe ryght well
My lyfe can not endure longe

Nature.

Though it be for the full necessary
For thy cõfort sometyme to satysfy
Thy sensuall appetyte
yet it is not conuenyent for the
To put therin thy felycyte
And all thy hole delyte
For if thou wylt lerne no sciens
Nother by study nor experiens
I shall the neuer avaunce
But in the worlde thou shalt dure than
Dyspysed of euery wyse man
Lyke this rude best ygnoraunce

The conclusion of this interlude is lost.

Nature.

Well Humanyte now I see playnly
That thou hast vsyd muche foly

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 9999 06561 051 9